



discipleship LIFE NOTES



James Anson
The Fragrance Test
15 May 2016

Key Scripture

John 8:29-32
Matthew 26:13
Luke 10:38-42
John 11:20-36
Matthew 11:28-30
John 12:1-7

Key Thought

Acts of Devotion - A sweet smelling Aroma
Mary found the blessing of God at Jesus' feet
Mary found the Fragrance of the Word
Mary brought her burdens to Jesus' feet
Mary found the fragrance of Surrender
Mary brought her best to Jesus' feet
Mary found the fragrance of Generosity

Questions

1. John 8:29 Jesus tells them that the Father sent him and is with him. He follows this up by telling his audience "I always do those things that please Him". Ps James stated "This emerging season in the church will be marked by a polarizing effect of those willing to "always please God" and those still "Living for themselves". Discuss "What kind of things does God ask of us to live a life that always pleases Him?" "How can we position our lives in order to better please God?"

Have a question about or thought on something in this message or series? Send your thoughts or questions into questions@therock.org.nz we'd love to hear from you.

2. How can we encourage others who may be challenged to make the shift to living a completely surrendered life, but are still sitting on the fence?
3. Mary sat at Jesus feet and heard his word. Jesus commended her and said her blessing would not be taken away from her. Martha complained to Jesus about Mary not helping. Have you experienced Martha's tension? How can we resolve the tension between serving and sitting? Is it an either/or OR a Both/and?
4. Does God really care about the dramas in our life? Mary took her burden of losing her brother Lazarus to Jesus feet. She off loaded the emotional weight that was burdening her. How did Jesus respond? What are some of the traps we can fall into when we end up carrying the weight of our emotional life on our own? What are some ways we can do this better?

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